

Message Text

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63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 OFA-01 COME-00

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SUBJ: EDITORIAL COMMENT ON GREAT LAKES AGREEMENT

1. TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL ON SEPT 15 PUBLISHED EDITORIAL ON PROGRESS IN CLEANUP OF GREAT LAKES POLLUTION. SUBJECT HAS BEEN RELATIVELY DORMANT LATELY AS BOTH COUNTRIES SEEMED TO BE MAKING HEADWAY IN CLEANING UP THE GREAT LAKES. HOWEVER, EDITORIAL ENTITLED, "POUR DOLLARS, NOT DIRT" POINTS OUT THAT "...69 AREAS OF THE GREAT LAKES FAIL TO MEET THE AGREED OBJECTIVES FOR WATER QUALITY...ALTHOUGH ONTARIO HAS CARRIED OUT ITS CLEANUP COMMITMENTS, AND THE US HAS NOT, ALMOST HALF THE SERIOUS TROUBLE POINTS ARE ON THE CANADIAN SIDE -- POLLUTION DOES NOT RECOGNIZE INTERNATIONAL BORDERS."

2. EDITORIAL REPORTS HIGH HOPES WHICH CAME WITH SIGNING OF GREAT LAKES AGREEMENT IN 1972 AND THEN RECOUNTS DISAPPOINTMENTS AS NIXON ADMINISTRATION IMPOUNDED FUNDS. IT CONCLUDES BY RECOUNTING HOW SUPREME COURT RULED AGAINST NIXON ADMINISTRATION ON THIS SUBJECT BUT HOW US SENATE SUBSEQUENTLY PASSED A BILL DIVERTING MANY OF THE FUND ELSEWHERE IN THE US. SO, CONCLUDES EDITORIAL, "UNLESS THE LAKES STATES SUCCEED IN THEIR EFFORTS TO HAVE

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THAT DIVERSION OVERTURNED, THE RESTORATION OF THE GREAT LAKES

WILL FADE INTO A STILL MORE REMOTE FUTURE, AND THE
POLLUTION WILL GO ON DRIFTING ACROSS THE DEFENSELESS BORDER."
PORTER

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